

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 USNATO 05418 01 OF 02 261435Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00  
EPA-04 HEW-06 HUD-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 NSF-02 OIC-02 PA-02 PM-05 SOE-02 DOE-15  
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 ICA-20 /133 W  
-----125801 261447Z /41

R 261418Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1970  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 USNATO 05418

E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: CCMS, NATO  
SUBJECT: CCMS: FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR PILOT STUDY ON  
HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF AC/274-WP/8, NOTES BY CCMS  
SECRETARY AND FRENCH DELEGATION, ON PROPOSED PILOT STUDY  
ON HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER  
RESOURCES:

BEGIN TEXT: NOTE BY THE SECRETARY  
REFERENCE: AC/274-N/76, PARAGRAPH 1 (3)

AT THE RECENT PLENARY SESSION OF THE CCMS, THE FRENCH  
DELEGATION SUBMITTED UNOFFICIALLY A PROPOSAL FOR A PILOT  
STUDY ON "HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF  
WATER RESOURCES".

ATTACHED IS A SHORT PAPER BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION  
SETTING OUT THIS PROPOSAL. IT WILL BE CONSIDERED AT AN  
AD HOC MEETING ON 3RD AND 4TH JULY, 1978 (1).

(1) AC/274-N/77  
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PAGE 02 USNATO 05418 01 OF 02 261435Z

(SIGNED) L. KLETTE

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NOTE BY THE FRENCH DELEGATION

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HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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INTRODUCTION

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EVEN IN TEMPERATE ZONES, WATER RESERVES ARE  
LARGELY CONTINGENT ON FLUCTUATIONS IN THE NATURAL SUPPLY,  
PARTICULARLY SEASONAL IRREGULARITIES.

AS A RESULT OF THESE UNCERTAINTIES, INFLATED SAFETY MARGINS  
ARE OFTEN APPLIED IN THE PLANNING OF WATER MANAGEMENT PRO-  
JECTS AND POTENTIAL RESOURCES ARE LEFT UNTAPPED BECAUSE SUCH  
PROJECTS ARE DESIGNED FOR ONLY THE MINIMUM COMPARATIVELY  
SURE SUPPLIES. SHORT-TERM RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IS ALSO  
COMPLICATED BY THE VARIABILITY OF SUPPLY IN RELATION TO THAT  
OF THE MORE EASILY PROGRAMMED DEMAND.

WHILE THE METEOROLOGICAL FLUCTUATIONS ARE ALEATORY AND CAN,  
TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, BE PREDICTED ONLY IN THE VERY  
SHORT-TERM, THEIR EFFECTS ON WATER RESOURCES ARE OFTEN  
FAIRLY STAGGERED AND HAVE A SUFFICIENTLY DETERMINISTIC  
RELATIONSHIP WITH THESE FLUCTUATIONS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE  
TO FORECAST THEM IN REAL TIME IN THE LIGHT OF A GIVEN  
SITUATION AND TO OBTAIN A RESULT OF SUFFICIENT PRACTICAL  
VALUE. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE IN THE LOW-WATER SEASON AND  
DRY YEARS, WHICH ARE PRECISELY THE TIMES WHEN IT IS MOST  
DIFFICULT TO MEET DEMAND (POSSIBILITY OF PERIODIC SHORTAGES).

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PAGE 03 USNATO 05418 01 OF 02 261435Z

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

THE AIM OF THE STUDY IS TO PREPARE A CRITICAL ENUMERATION  
OF THE CURRENT PROVEN AND OPERATIONAL SITUATION ANALYSIS  
AND HYDROLOGICAL FORECASTING METHODS WHICH CAN BE USED:  
-- TO EVALUATE CYCLIC DEVELOPMENTS IN REAL TIME IN RELATION  
TO A NORMAL (REFERENCE) SITUATION;

-- TO FORECAST, ON THE BASIS OF AN AUTHENTIC RECORDED  
SITUATION, THE FUTURE TREND OF THE HYDROLOGICAL VARIABLES  
GOVERNING WATER RESOURCES (LEVEL OF UNDERGROUND WATER, FLOW  
PATTERNS OF SPRINGS AND RIVERS) ESPECIALLY AT LOW WATER,  
IN THE FORM OF MEANINGFUL FIGURES FOR MINIMUM SECURE  
RESOURCES;

-- TO ESTIMATE THE LIKELIHOOD OF VARIOUS POSSIBLE SITUATIONS  
OCCURRING, WHICH IS A DIFFERENT AIM.

THE STUDY SHOULD ENCOMPASS:

-- THE ACQUISITION OF THE NECESSARY BASIC DATA;

-- THE DATA PROCESSING METHODS WHICH CAN BE USED (DETERMINIST  
AND/OR STOCHASTIC OR PROBABILIST);  
-- THE APPROPRIATE PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE THE  
RAPID COLLECTION OF DATA AND CIRCULATION OF RESULTS AND  
FORECASTS NECESSARY FOR DECISION-TAKING IN REAL TIME  
(HYDROLOGICAL OBSERVATORY");  
  
-- THE MOST SUITABLE WAYS OF PRESENTING DATA AND FORECASTS.  
END TEXT.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: GUIDANCE ON FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR JULY

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PAGE 01 USNATO 05418 02 OF 02 261458Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 DOTE-00  
EPA-04 HEW-06 HUD-02 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00  
NSC-05 NSF-02 OIC-02 PA-02 PM-05 SOE-02 DOE-15  
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-----125971 261500Z /41

R 261418Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USNATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1971  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 USNATO 05418

3-4 AD HOC MEETING. GLITMAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MANAGEMENT, WATER, STUDIES  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SENV, CCMS, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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